

Air Force Officer Qualifying Test (AFOQT) Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

The following questions and answers address some of the common questions asked by AFOQT examinees. This information is releasable to the public. If a customer still has questions or concerns after reading this information, contact the AFPC testing office (AFPC/DPPPWT).

The AFPC testing office is OPR for administration and scoring of the AFOQT. How the test results are used, minimum standards, etc are the responsibility of the accession source to which an examinee is applying (AFROTC, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, OTS, etc)

1. What does the AFOQT test measure and how many parts are there?

Answer: The AFOQT measures aptitudes used to select candidates for officer commissioning programs and specific commissioned officer training programs. The test has 16 subtests. Subtest scores are combined to generate one or more of the five composite scores used to help predict success in certain types of Air Force training programs. The 16 subtests are:

- Verbal Analogies
- Arithmetic Reasoning
- Reading Comprehension
- Data Interpretation
- Word Knowledge
- Math Knowledge
- Mechanical Comprehension
- Electrical Maze
- Scale Reading
- Instrument Comprehension
- Block Counting
- Table Reading
- Aviation Information
- Rotated Blocks
- General Science
- Hidden Figures

2. How are scores determined?

Answer: The scores are reported in five composite areas:

Pilot
Navigator
Academic Aptitude
Verbal
Quantitative

These are the only scores which are reported. AFPC/DPPPWT does not combine or total the five composite areas. Each of the five composite areas is reported independently with a percentile score for each composite. Each composite score is determined using a combination of some of the 16 subtests:

The *Pilot* score is determined by the number of questions answered correctly on the following subtests:

Verbal Analogies
Mechanical Comprehension
Electrical Maze
Scale Reading
Instrument Comprehension
Block Counting
Table Reading
Aviation Information

The *Navigator* score is determined by the number of questions answered correctly on the following subtests:

Arithmetic Reasoning
Data Interpretation
Math Knowledge
Mechanical Comprehension
Electrical Maze
Scale Reading
Block Counting
Table Reading
Rotated Blocks
General Science
Hidden Figures

The *Academic Aptitude* score is determined by the number of questions answered correctly on the following subtests:

Verbal Analogies
Arithmetic Reasoning
Reading Comprehension
Data Interpretation
Word Knowledge

Math Knowledge

The *Verbal* score is determined by the number of questions answered correctly on the following subtests:

Verbal Analogies
Reading Comprehension
Word Knowledge

The *Quantitative* score is determined by the number of questions answered correctly on the following subtests:

Arithmetic Reasoning
Data Interpretation
Math Knowledge

3. Since I'm not applying to pilot or navigator training do I have to take the complete test? I prefer to only take the first half of the test because the other subtests are a waste of my time.

Answer: All examinees should complete all 16 subtests. There may be a future requirement for use of all subtest scores. Even if the pilot and navigator subtests are not taken it counts as a valid test administration. Examinees will not be authorized an additional test administration at a later time because they declined to complete some subtests.

4. What is a percentile score and what does it mean?

Answer: A percentile score indicates how an individual's test performance compares to a normative reference group. A normative reference group consists of a group of examinees with demographic and aptitude characteristics representative of those who are taking the test. The number of test questions answered correctly by an examinee is compared to the scores of those in the normative reference group and the results are reported on a 1 to 99 scale. For example, an individual with a percentile score of 50 has a score equal to or better than 50% of those in the normative reference group, an individual with a percentile score of 75 has a score equal to or better than 75% of those in the normative reference group, etc. Research studies have shown that scores are predictive of performance in commissioning programs and specialized training programs such as pilot and navigator training. Selection boards then use these scores in combination with other factors to determine who will be selected.

5. How long does it take to score an answer sheet after it arrives at AFPC/DPPPWT?

Answer: We typically score AFOQTs one or two times a week. The biggest delay in test scoring is the mailing time for AFOQT answer sheets to reach AFPC for scoring. We require answer sheets to be mailed within 1 duty day of test administration.

It's extremely important that examinees schedule testing far enough in advance of any application deadline to ensure results are available by the deadline.

6. How can someone obtain a copy of his or her scores?

Answer: For individuals who test at an Active Duty, Guard, or Reserve base, RIPs are sent via AUTODIN to the MPFs that conducted the testing. For individuals who take the AFOQT at a MEPS test site, the scores are loaded to a system called PROMIS which is a recruiting support system accessed by Air Force recruiters. For those who test at an ROTC detachment, AFPC sends out file copies to HQ AFROTC a few days after each scoring run.

There are two ways for individuals who do not have an official copy of their scores to obtain them:

A. Go to the AFPC testing web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/testing/ and print out the scores.

B. Air Force TCO test sites are authorized to generate a source using the official scores from the web

7. How good are my AFOQT scores?

Answer: As mentioned above, scores are reported as percentiles ranging from 1 to 99. Each accession source has established minimum scores required to compete for selection. For specifics on how competitive your particular scores will be in the selection process, you should contact the commissioning source to which you are applying.

8. We all know that a board reviews the scores. Does the board make selections based on who has the highest score or as long as you have the minimum score do you then compete based on other factors?

Answer: AFPC/DPPPWT is not the OPR for these issues. Your best bet for clarification is to speak directly to the accession source through which you are applying. Some of the governing regulations include:

- AFI 36-2005, *Appointment in Commission Grades and Designation and Assignment in Professional Categories -- Reserve of the Air Force and United States Air Force (Temporary)*
- AFI 36-2013, *Officer Training School (OTS) Enlisted Airman Commissioning Programs*
- AETCI 36-2002, *Recruiting Procedures for the Air Force*
- AFROTC 45-13, *AFROTC Weighted Professional Officer Course Selection System*
- AFRESI 36-2602, *Application Procedures for Undergraduate Pilot Training, Undergraduate Helicopter Training, and Navigator Training*
- NGR (AF) 36-2, *Appointment of Officers in Air National Guard*

9. What is the passing percentile for each category?

Answer: HQ AFPC/DPPPWT does not establish minimum requirements. As mentioned above, each commissioning source determines the minimum scores needed to be eligible to apply. The AFOQT score is just one of many factors considered in the selection process. Obviously the qualifications of everyone meeting a particular board also influences who is selected.

10. I've heard the combination of a person's score must be 100 or better. Is this true?

Answer: Again, HQ AFPC/DPPPWT does not establish standards. You must talk with the commissioning source you are working with or check the governing regulation to obtain the specifics.

11. What happens when it's crunch time and the board is right around the corner?

Answer: We do our best to score the AFOQT tests as soon as possible. As a minimum we score tests once a week. We make every effort to get the results to the board in a timely manner. The best approach is to eliminate crunch time by planning to test well in advance of board deadlines.

12. Can applicants go through the board without scores?

Answer: No. Having test scores is a requirement to compete for a line officer commission.

13. How long does it take for the MPF to get scores back from AFPC?

Answer: The location administering the test is required by AFI 36-2605, *Air Force Military Personnel Testing System*, to mail the answer sheets within 1 duty day of administration. It usually takes 7-10 days before the answer sheets are in-hand for scoring. Then the amount of time since we completed the last scoring run and getting the scores loaded into the database adds a few more days. As soon as the scores are loaded they can be obtained via the web a www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/testing.

14. How do you compute a BAT or PCSM score?

Answer: AETC/PCSM Program Manager, DSN 487-4529 (Commercial [210] 652-4529, computes the scores using a complex algorithm combining AFOQT Pilot and Basic Attributes Test (BAT) scores with flying hours to come up with a model score which predicts success in flying training programs.

15. How many times can I take the AFOQT?

Answer: An individual can take the AFOQT two times with a minimum interval of 6 months between test administrations. Waivers to take the test a third time are granted to individuals who have completed significant training since the previous administration if the training impacts the skills being measured by the test (college-level math and English courses, private pilot's license, etc). If you inquire on a score and see blanks in the area where the scores should be, it's usually because the person took the test a third time without authorization.